

**From:** Eric Carter  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/23/02 12:30pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

I'm not so sure if the proposed microsoft settlement is such a good idea. I don't think that it will effectively redistribute the gains which microsoft has acquired through it's successful use of unfair monopoly powers. It is apparent from the final judgement and the various pieces of evidence show that it will be difficult for any company or organization to compete against microsoft as long as it's "pushing it's weight around". Additionally, no reference is made to casual groups in the final judgement. The Open Source community is the only group which is currently a major competetor with Microsoft(AIM, Linux, BSD, Netscape/Mozilla), yet they are not mentioned(and apparently given no rights) under the final judgement. Microsoft API's and standards should be open for ALL programmers who want to produce a product that will be compatible with Microsoft programers, not just those who want to make a profit off that product.

I was disappointed that the expected term of the final judgement was shorter than the trial which created it. I feel that 10 years(if not indefinately until microsoft losses it's Operating System Monopoly) is more suiting and would give the industry enough time to recoup from microsofts stranglehold.

With opposition and honest,  
Eric Carter  
Voting U.S. Citizen of California,  
Currently representing the U.S. in Germany as a Congress-Bundestag Student Ambassador.